

Utah Valley combines business, recreation

PROVO — With mountains framing all sides, Utah County, or Utah Valley as it is often called, includes cities forming a 40-mile chain from north to south along Interstate 15.

The Provo/Orem area within Utah County is located 44 miles south of Salt Lake City at the foot of the Wasatch mountain range. To the west is Utah Lake, the largest natural fresh water lake in the state.

Two Franciscan priests, Francisco Antanasio Dominquez and Sivestre Velez de Escalante, entered the Provo/Orem area with their party in 1776. Later, numerous explorers and trappers came through the area. Perhaps the most famous of these was Etienne Provost, a French Canadian for whom Provo and the Provo River are named. In 1849, Mormon leader Brigham Young commanded the colonization of the Utah Valley.

Residents of Utah Valley enjoy a four-season climate with low humidity. Mid-summer temperatures rarely rise to 100 degrees and on the average, there are only three days per year when the temperature falls below zero.

Annually, approximately 57



Herald file photo

Like State Street in Orem, pictured above, shopping centers are found throughout Utah Valley. The valley's economy is diversified, including the high technology, electronics, manufacturing, construction, transportation, finance, retail and service industries.

Utah Country

